நகரசபை ஊழியர்களில் அரசியல் கட்சி இயங்கிவருகிறதென்ற எண்ணம் திரு. எத்திராஜலுவுக்கு ஒரு பீதியைக் கொடுக்கிறது. இது தேவையில்லை. ஏனென்றால், ஒரு சில முனிசிபல் ஸ்தாபனங்களால் தனிக் கட்சிகள் இயங்குமென்ற எண்ணம் எதனுல் ஏற்பட்டதென்று தெரியவில்லை. தேர்தலில் அங்கத்தினர்கள் பகிரங்க வேலைகள் செய்கிறுர்கள் என்றுல், அவற்றைப் பார்த்துக் கொண்டிருப்பது மக்கள் பிரதிநிதிக்கு சரி அல்ல. இவ்வாறு நிலைமை ஏற்படாமலிருக்க, செய்கையில் இவர் ஈடுபடுவது நலமாக இருக்கும். மிகவும் குறைந்த வருமானமுள்ளவர்களை, அங்கத்தினர் கூறியதைப்போல, இடம் மாற்றுவதால் அவர்களின் கஷ்டங்கள் அதிகமாகின்றன. மேலும் அங்கத்தினர் குறைந்த வருவாய் உள்ளவர்கள் நிலைமையைப்பற்றி நன்றுகக் கூறினுர். அவ்விதமாக பொறுப்பு நமக்கு வேண்டும். உடனடியாக சிலர் சேருவதை provincialise செய்வதென்பது சாத்தியமில்லை. இதை நன்றுகச் சிந்தித்து அதன்படிதான் முடிவு எடுக்க முடியும். கடந்த 4 வருஷங்களில் சிதம்பரத்தில் நகர சபைத் தலைவர்கள் கூட்டம் ஏற்பட்டதாகத் தெரியவில்லை. எந்த நகர சபைத் தலைவர்கள் கூடினுர்களென்பதையும் தெரியப்படுத்தினுல் நலமாக இருக்கும். நான் முன் கூறிய காரணங்களினுல் இந்த தீர்மானத்தை ஏற்றுக்கொள்ள முடியாத நிலை ஏற்படுகிற தென்பதைத் தெரிவித்துக் கொள்கிறேன்.

(Mr. Chairman in the Chair.)

SRI M. ETHIRAJALU : Sir, ...

MR. CHAIRMAN : The hon. Member will please not make a long speech.

SRI M. ETHIRAJALU : Only one word, Sir.

இப்போது அமைச்சர் அவர்கள் சொன்ன பதிலுக்கு நான் ஒன்றும் பதில் சொல்ல முன்வரவில்லை. ஒன்றுமட்டும் சொல்வேன். நகரசபை ஊழியர்கள் சேவையை மாநில ரீதியாக மாற்ற வேண்டுமென்று சிதம்பரத்தில் தீர்மானம் நிறைவேற்றப்பட்டு, 10—8—1961 தேதிய "சுதேசமித்திரன்" பத்திரிகையில் பிரசுரிக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. அவர்கள் சொன்ன பதிலுக்கு சர்க்கார் தரப்பிலே இருக்கிற நிலையில் நான் ஒன்றும் சொல்ல முடியாத காரணத்தால், நான் என்னுடைய தீர்மானத்தை வாபஸ் பெறுகிறேன்.

The Resolution, by leave, withdrawn.

(2) STATE CORPORATIONS.

SRI K. BALASUBRAMANYA AYYAR : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I move—

"This Council recommends to the Government to constitute a Committee consisting of certain number of Members elected by each House of the Legislature from among themselves to study the working of the State Corporations and other Companies and undertakings in which the State has a substantial share and to advise the

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Government on matters relating thereto with a view to their efficient administration without interference in the day-to-day activities of the concerns ".

SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHY : I second the Resolution, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Resolution moved—

" This Council recommends to the Government to constitute a Committee consisting of certain number of Members elected by each House of the Legislature from among themselves to study the working of the State Corporations and other Companies and undertakings in which the State has a substantial share and to advise the Government on matters relating thereto with a view to their efficient administration without interference in the day-to-day activities of the concerns."

SRI. K. BALASUBRAMANYA AYYAR : Sir, as the plans proceed more and more State Corporations are being established and the Government also are taking substantial share in many commercial undertakings and also important industrial concerns. In fact, they have established the Madras Industrial Investment Corporation for that very purpose. In the Third Five-Year Plan the public sector will incur a larger share of the public expenditure. Under these circumstances, it is only fit and proper—where State moneys are given either as loans or as substantial shares in various concerns —the Legislature should be in touch with the expenditure and also see to the proper utilisation of these moneys. The State Electricity Board is one such. The Housing Board has been constituted. A sum of Rs. 2 lakhs has already been given and more and more money will be given to the Housing Board when they take up big undertakings. There is the Khadi Board—the State Khadi and Village Industries Board. Before that Board came in, it was a Government Department and a sum of Rs. 30 lakhs was provided last year as grant for the purposes of the Khadi Fund. The Government have invested (large sum) in the shares of the Madras Industrial Investment Corporation, Andhra Chemicals, and the State Cooperative Bank.

The total amount is Rs. 4,47,98,394. Also large loans are given by State Corporations. The Legislature also could take an interest in the administration of those funds generally without interference in the day-to-day activities of the concerns. The annual financial statement of the Electricity Board is placed before us. Similarly the Budget of the State Housing Board also will be placed before us, but it is only after the close of the year. We should be acquainted with the general policy in regard to items of expenditure and the way in which the Corporations are administered and how the funds are utilised. Therefore, I would strongly recommend to the Government this Resolution. Government have established large undertakings, and invested in shares. There are also guarantees, and it may be appropriate for the Legislature to acquaint themselves with the working of these bodies, and have general powers of advising the Government from time to time. To-day, there is an announcement in the papers that Parliament has decided to set up

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a fifteen member Joint Committee of both Houses of Parliament to exercise effective control—this Resolution of mine does not go so far as that ' effective control ' and ' supervision over the public undertakings '—the Committee may be constituted after the next General Elections with 10 members from Lok Sabha and 5 members from Rajya Sabha. With a view to suggesting from time to time new ideas which they have got and also to make any criticisms as regards the working of these bodies, I would appeal to the Government to think of accepting my Resolution. The Public Accounts Committee and the Estimates Committee also examine the accounts of all undertakings, but that is after the event. In all these cases, it is better that the Legislature acquaints itself with the working of those bodies and with the details of expenditure and generally satisfies itself that all those items of expenditure are proper. That will be the role of this advisory body of our Legislature. Certain advisory bodies have been constituted under statutes like the Food Committee. Such committees have been established for the purpose of giving advice to the Government in various departments. So long as money is given out of the Consolidated Fund, there may be such bodies. For example, there is the Electricity Board. Large amounts are given to it. There is the Housing Board. Hereafter large amounts will have to be given to it also, when they undertake many housing projects. Therefore, in order to appreciate the working of such bodies, and in order to see that the money is properly utilised, it is desirable to have such a committee. This is a committee to be appointed for the purpose of acquainting the Members with the regular working of these bodies to which the Government have given loans or in which they have invested shares and various companies for which guarantees have been given for their proper working. It is only for this purpose that I move my Resolution. 4-00 p.m.

DR. A. LAKSHMANASWAMI MUDALIAR : Mr. Chairman, Sir, sometime ago I raised the same point and quoted from a letter that the late Speaker of the Lok Sabha had written. It referred to the urgent necessity of setting up such a committee as it was felt that neither the Estimates Committee nor the Public Accounts Committee had a power like this. From that time probably the State Government have set up many undertakings and they hope to have more of them. It is good that they are setting up these Corporations. At the same time, I must confess that I have an uneasy feeling that the Corporations once set up, unless they are in a position to explain their activities and the manner in which they are conducting themselves, would become not mere autonomous bodies but autocratic bodies. I am sorry I was not here the other day when the Electricity Board Budget was discussed and when several points ought to have been brought to the notice of this House in regard to the day-to-day working of the Electricity Board as well as the manner in which this autonomous body thinks itself too autonomous to look to any other advice. I am afraid this tendency will grow with these bodies and, as the hon. Member Sri Balasubramanya Ayyar has stated, so long as money is put into these

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bodies from the Consolidated Fund, we have a right to expect that we shall have some measure of knowledge about the working of these bodies and that our own Members will be in a position to have some idea as to how they are working. I, therefore, feel that this Resolution has not been moved a day too soon and before many more of these State Corporations come into existence, it is necessary that the Government should consider the desirability of constituting a committee of the Legislature to study their working.

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: Mr. Chairman, Sir, it has not been possible for me to understand the significance of this Resolution. Evidently, the idea of the hon. the Leader of the Opposition and also the Deputy Leader of the Opposition is that with reference to what is happening in Parliament, we should also take corresponding steps here. If only they look into the number of Corporations that we have here and also the Boards, I am sure that they will come to the conclusion that such a committee is not necessary. As far as Corporations are concerned, we have got only one Corporation, that is, the State Warehousing Corporation which has been formed under the Warehousing Corporation Act. That has begun to function from 4th December 1957 and it has got a very small activity. I do not think that a stage has arrived where matters have gone out of control. We have constituted the Electricity Board, the Housing Board and the Khadi Board. The very idea of constituting these Boards is that they should function as autonomous bodies to a certain extent so that they may not be weighed down by rules and procedures which are applicable to administrative departments of Government. They will have to be run as commercial Corporations or commercial undertakings. They should have a certain amount of autonomy in functioning. We must put proper persons there. That is the important thing. If we find that any person is not a proper person, we may remove him. One we appoint a person, we must trust him and allow him to continue. If he goes wrong, we will have to take action against him. Parliaments and Legislatures have a feeling that when we pass an Act saying that there should be statutory Corporations, they should be allowed to function in an autonomous manner. But unfortunately once a Corporation is formed, we always have the temptation to interfere in their working and to find out how they are working. Their working should be judged, particularly the working of commercial corporations should be judged not from what is happening from day-to-day and who has been appointed and who has been promoted. Commercial undertakings are for the purpose of producing results. Therefore, we have to review their working on the basis of the results produced at the end of the year. If they have gone wrong in the matter of producing results or if we find that even though results have been produced, there has been gross discrimination or patronage with regard to the administration, then the only thing is that we should remove the concerned persons and put in proper persons. But once a committee

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is set up, the tendency for it is to pry into the various activities, whether a lower division clerk should have been promoted as upper division clerk and whether an upper division clerk should have been given the chance to act as Superintendent. Unfortunately, that will be the tendency of these committees once we appoint them. Therefore, I would respectfully submit, with reference to these few Boards and one Corporation, we have got the Estimates Committee, and we can go into their working. This Committee makes reports and we can consider them. Even during the Budget discussion it is open to us to consider the matter and lay down broad policies for their guidance. Therefore, there is absolutely no necessity at this stage to appoint a committee as far as these few activities are concerned.

Then, mention was made about the other companies registered under the Indian Companies Act, in which we had taken shares. We are only ordinary shareholders there. If our policy is that we should not contribute to the shares of these companies, that is quite a different thing. But when we take a decision as a policy decision for the purpose of promoting and encouraging these companies, we go there not with a superior authority than any other ordinary shareholder. Government are a shareholder and Government have got only as much right as any other ordinary shareholder has got. If we have got a Director, he has the right to function in it. But as a shareholder, Government do not have the right to go and ask for the scrutiny of the accounts or to look into the various aspects of the company administration. It will be beyond the scope of the rights and privileges of any shareholder. If we have a Director on the board, then we can direct him to submit a report and we can look into it.

4–p.m.

With reference to co-operative organisations, they are all registered under the Registration Act. They are entitled to function within the framework of the Constitution as a Corporate body and certainly even though there may be the Legislature, unless we change the law, it is not open to us to go and advise them or to look into the working of those organizations. There is a separate organization and set up for these bodies and they have to function on those lines. Certainly we can discuss their working, whether the existing pattern or set up should be changed or not and all that. But having set up these societies, to constitute a Committee to look into their working and give them advice as to what action should be taken—sometimes penal action may have to be taken—is not the proper way of doing it.

Even with reference to the big corporations which are set up in the public sector we will have to get over the feeling or temptation that every thing is going wrong, that we are not able to look into their working and that we are not aware of so many things. I submit there is such a feeling in the Parliament also. Unless a certain amount of autonomy is given to them and they are allowed to function with a free hand, subject of course, to action being taken later on if anything is going wrong, they cannot

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prove a success as you want them to be. We cannot bring these industrial projects and commercial corporations under the rules and regulations of Government. I would humbly beg to submit that if today proper action is not taken in many cases in these corporations, it is because of the fear of parliamentary questions. Some disgruntled officer gives information to a Member of Parliament, and immediately a question is put in Parliament, the Member taking the information as absolute truth. Thereafter the Manager of the Corporation who has to take the day to day decisions and who has got to work the institution becomes funky. He is unable to take the decisions. He therefore, passes on the responsibility to somebody else. And naturally when the responsibility has got to be passed on to somebody else, he has got to be a responsible person. Therefore it is passed on to the Minister and ultimately we find fault with the corporation. If we do not want any public sector concerns to function, let us not have them. But if you want to have them then you must allow them to function with a free hand. If you are suspicious about them let us not have them at all.

Therefore, Sir, I submit that even though these corporations are Government concerns, if they are to function successfully as commercial corporations and industrial projects, it is better that the legislature does not lay its hand in their working but allows them to function freely. If anything goes wrong it would be possible for us to take action. That is my point of view having known the affairs and the functioning of these public corporations. Today unfortunately these public corporations are treated as departments of the Government, coming under one department or another. Therefore the Minister has got to take the responsibility. Once questions are put, immediately they say we are responsible and therefore ultimately everything should be referred to us and decisions taken only after reference to us. If we adopt this attitude no corporation could be run successfully.

Sir, I had the privilege of discussing this question of administration and functioning of public corporations with important people when I was in some foreign countries. The one aspect which was stressed everywhere was this. Once you from a corporation it is just like any other corporation. Simply because it has been constituted by the Government it cannot become a department of the Government. Once it becomes a department of Government it cannot function successfully and efficiently. The temptation of the legislature to pry into everything and find out what is happening with reference to the way in which it is functioning, with reference to each decision taken by it stands in the way of the efficient functioning of the corporation, stands in the way of persons shouldering the responsibilities for their decisions, stands in the way of the corporations functioning as commercial and industrial projects. Therefore, I would submit with all deference to the hon. Members who spoke in favour of the Resolution that we are not justified in constituting a committee to go into all these things.

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Particularly as far as companies registered under the Indian Companies Act are concerned even this Legislature does not have the power to order the corporations to submit reports to the scrutiny of the committee appointed by the Legislature.

Considering all this, I would request the hon. Member to withdraw the Resolution. With reference to these Boards and the Corporations if the hon. Member thinks that some check is necessary, we have the estimates committee, we have the public accounts committee. It is always open to these committees to look into not only what has happened but also what is happening. I do not think we should create a fifth wheel to the coach.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Is the hon. Member withdrawing the Resolution?

SRI K. BALASUBRAMANIA AYYAR : Even if I press, it will not be passed. Therefore, I am withdrawing (Laughter).

The Resolution was, by leave, withdrawn.

(3) FISHERMEN IN THE STATE.

VIDWAN T. MUTHUKANNAPPAN : தலைவர் அவர்களே, " இம்மாநிலத்திலுள்ள மீனவர்களின் எண்ணிக்கை மாவட்ட வாரியாக ஆராயவும், அவர்களின் பொருளாதார, சமுதாய, கல்வி பிற்போக்கு நிலையையும் அவர்களைப் பாதிக்கும் பிரச்னைகளையும், தடைகளையும் ஆராயும் சர்வே ஒன்றை மேற்கொள்ளவும், மீனவர் சமுதாயத்தைப் பொருளாதாரம், கல்வி, சமூகநிலை ஆகியவற்றில் உயர்த்தும் அபிவிருத்தி வேலை சம்பந்தமான சிபாரிசுகள் கொண்ட அறிக்கை ஒன்றை தயாரிக்கவும் அதிகாரிகள், அதிகார சார்பற்றவர்கள், மீனவர் சமுதாயப் பிரதிநிதிகள் அடங்கிய குழு ஒன்றை நிறுவ இம்மன்றம் அரசினருக்குச் சிபாரிசு செய்கிறது " என்ற தீர்மானத்தை நான் முன்மொழிகிறேன்.

SRI M. ETHIRAJALU : I second the resolution, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Resolution moved—

" This Council recommends to the Government to constitute a committee of officials, non-officials and representatives of the fishermen community to investigate and conduct a survey of the dispersal of the fishermen in the State, district-war, their backwardness socially, educationally and economically and the peculiar problems and disabilities which confront them and to make a report thereon together with recommendations for the amelioration and advancement of the fishermen community socially, economically and educationally ".

VIDWAN T. MUTHUKANNAPPAN : தலைவர் அவர்களே, மீனவர் சமுதாயம் கல்வியிலும், பொருளாதாரத்திலும், நாகரீகத்திலும் மிகமிகப் பிற்பட்டுக் கிடக்கிற ஒரு சமுதாயம் என்பது அனைவருக்கும் தெரியவேண்டும். பாரதியார் சொன்னதுபோல, இன்றைய நிலையிலே, தாழ்வுற்று, வறுமை மிஞ்சி, பாமரராய், காட்டர்